

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1           1. A method for performing in-line text expansion, said method comprising:  
2           requesting a data file from a server;  
3           receiving said data file from said server onto a user system;  
4           displaying said data file on a user screen attached to said user system, said  
5           displaying including:  
6           reading a record from said data file, said record including record header data,  
7           record body data, and a record body display flag;  
8           adding said record header data to said user screen; and  
9           adding said record body data to said user screen if said record body display flag is  
10          set to on; and  
11          updating said user screen in response to selection of said record header data, said  
12          updating including:  
13          removing said record body data from said user screen and setting said record body  
14          display flag to off if said record body display flag is set to on; and  
15          adding said record body data to said user screen and setting said record body  
16          display flag to on if said record body display flag is set to off.

1           2. The method of claim 1 wherein said requesting a data file is performed using  
2           browser software.

1           3. The method of claim 1 wherein said receiving said data file is performed using  
2           browser software.

1           4. The method of claim 1 wherein said record includes HTML tags.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said record includes XML tags.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein said displaying is performed using Java  
2 software.

1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein said updating is performed using Java  
2 software.

1 8. A system for performing in-line text expansion, said system comprising:  
2 a user system in communication with a server over a network, said user system  
3 implementing a process comprising:

4 requesting a data file from said server;

5 receiving said data file from said server onto a user system;

6 displaying said data file on a user screen attached to said user system, said  
7 displaying including:

8 reading a record from said data file, said record including record header data,  
9 record body data, and a record body display flag;

10 adding said record header data to said user screen; and

11 adding said record body data to said user screen if said record body display flag is  
12 set to on; and

13 updating said user screen in response to selection of said record header data, said  
14 updating including:

15 removing said record body data from said user screen and setting said record body  
16 display flag to off if said record body display flag is set to on; and

17 adding said record body data to said user screen and setting said record body  
18 display flag to on if said record body display flag is set to off.

1           9. The system of claim 8 wherein said requesting a data file is performed using  
2 browser software.

1           10. The system of claim 8 wherein said receiving said data file is performed using  
2 browser software.

1           11. The system of claim 8 wherein said record includes HTML tags.

1           12. The system of claim 8 wherein said record includes XML tags.

1           13. The system of claim 8 wherein said displaying is performed using Java  
2 software.

1           14. The system of claim 8 wherein said updating is performed using Java  
2 software.

1           15. The system of claim 8 wherein said network is the internet.

1           16. The system of claim 8 wherein said network is an intranet.

1           17. A storage medium encoded with machine-readable computer program code  
2     for performing in-line text expansion, the storage medium storing instructions for causing  
3     a user system to implement a method comprising:  
4           requesting a data file from a server;  
5           receiving said data file from said server onto said user system;  
6           displaying said data file on a user screen attached to said user system, said  
7     displaying including:  
8           reading a record from said data file, said record including record header data,  
9     record body data, and a record body display flag;  
10          adding said record header data to said user screen; and  
11          adding said record body data to said user screen if said record body display flag is  
12     set to on; and  
13          updating said user screen in response to selection of said record header data, said  
14     updating including:  
15          removing said record body data from said user screen and setting said record body  
16     display flag to off if said record body display flag is set to on; and  
17          adding said record body data to said user screen and setting said record body  
18     display flag to on if said record body display flag is set to off.

1           18. The storage medium of claim 17 wherein said requesting a data file is  
2     performed using browser software.

1           19. The storage medium of claim 17 wherein said receiving said data file is  
2     performed using browser software.

1           20. The storage medium of claim 17 wherein said record includes HTML tags.

1           21. The storage medium of claim 17 wherein said record includes XML tags.

